

**DISK DRIVE AND METHOD FOR USING A MAILBOX FILE  
ASSOCIATED WITH A DISK STORAGE MEDIUM FOR PERFORMING A  
FUNCTION CHARACTERIZED BY CONTENTS OF THE MAILBOX FILE**

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**ABSTRACT**

A disk drive and method are disclosed for using a mailbox file associated  
with a disk storage medium for performing a function characterized by contents of  
the mailbox file. In accordance with exemplary embodiments of the present  
invention, a disk drive comprises a disk storage medium having a first range of  
10 disk drive host interface addressable locations accessible by a host computer  
operating system, at least one of the addressable locations being used to designate  
a mailbox file. The disk drive comprises a disk controller for responding to a  
command from the host computer operating system that references the mailbox file  
to perform a function characterized by contents of the mailbox file.

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